

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An optical lens, comprising a marking formed on a surface entirely or partially outside an effective area of said lens to distinguish between a surface and a back surfaces of said lens.
2. (original) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lens is a coupling lens.
3. (original) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein said lens surface has a coating film and said marking is formed by using said coating film.
4. (original) The optical lens as set forth in claim 3, wherein said coating film is not provided at least partially outside the effective area of said lens, and said marking refers to a part on which said coating film is not provided.
5. (original) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein said marking is unevenly formed outside the effective area of said lens.
6. (original) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein said marking is made of a printed matter.
7. (original) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein said marking is made of a coating matter.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A manufacturing method of an optical lens, comprising a step of entirely or partially forming a marking on a surface outside an effective area of said lens to distinguish between a surface and a back surfaces of said lens.

11. (original) The manufacturing method of the optical lens as set forth in claim 10, wherein said lens is a coupling lens.

12. (original) The manufacturing method of the optical lens as set forth in claim 10 or 11, wherein said lens surface has a coating film and said marking is formed by using said coating film.

13. (original) The manufacturing method of the optical lens as set forth in claim 12, wherein said coating film is not provided at least partially outside the effective area of said lens, and said marking refers to a part on which said coating film is not provided.

14. (original) The manufacturing method of the optical lens as set forth in claim 10 or 11, wherein said marking is unevenly formed outside the effective area of said lens by using a

mold.

15. (original) The manufacturing method of the optical lens as set forth in claim 10 or 11, wherein said marking is formed by printing.

16. (original) The manufacturing method of the optical lens as set forth in claim 10 or 11, wherein said marking is formed by coating.

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (original) An optical device, comprising any one of optical lenses as set forth in claims 1 to 9.

20. (original) The optical device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said optical device is an optical pickup device and said optical lens is used for condensing light on an optical disk, said optical device including a light source for emitting light and an optical element for detecting light reflected on said optical disk.

21. (original) The optical device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said optical device is an optical communication component and said optical lens is used for condensing light, said

optical device including a light source for emitting light and an optical fiber.

22. (original) The optical device as set forth in claim 19, wherein said optical device is an optical sensor and said optical lens is used for condensing light, said optical device including an optical element for detecting light condensed by said optical lens.

23. (withdrawn) A lens, comprising a configuration permitting visual discrimination between an inner region and an outer region of effective area of said lens.

24. (withdrawn) The lens as set forth in claim 23, wherein said configuration permitting visual discrimination includes a non-shiny surface having no shine as a surface outside the effective area.

25. (withdrawn) The lens as set forth in claim 23, wherein said configuration permitting visual discrimination includes a light-absorbing surface for absorbing light as a surface outside the effective area.

26. (withdrawn) The lens as set forth in claim 23, wherein said configuration permitting visual discrimination includes a scattering surface for scattering light as a surface outside the effective area.

27. (withdrawn) The lens as set forth in claim 23, wherein said configuration permitting

visual discrimination includes a pattern surface having a predetermined pattern, as a surface outside the effective area.

28. (withdrawn) The lens as set forth in claim 27, wherein said predetermined pattern includes any one of a ring, a spiral, and a mesh.

29. (withdrawn) The lens as set forth in claim 23, wherein said configuration permitting visual discrimination includes a rough surface as a surface outside said effective area.

30. (withdrawn) A lens manufacturing method, comprising a step of working a surface outside an effective area of a lens so as to permit visual discrimination from a surface inside the effective area.

31. (withdrawn) The lens manufacturing method as set forth in claim 30, wherein said working refers to applying a coating on the surface outside the effective area.

32. (withdrawn) The lens manufacturing method as set forth in claim 30, wherein said working refers to printing the surface outside the effective area.

33. (withdrawn) The lens manufacturing method as set forth in claim 30, wherein said working refers to evaporating a coating on the surface outside the effective area.

34. (withdrawn) The lens manufacturing method as set forth in claim 30, wherein said working refers to crimping a pattern surface having a predetermined pattern onto the surface outside the effective area.

35. (withdrawn) A lens manufacturing method, comprising a step of simultaneously forming a lens and a predetermined pattern by using a mold, which is capable of forming said predetermined pattern on a surface outside an effective area of said lens so as to permit visual discrimination from a surface inside the effective area.

36. (withdrawn) A lens manufacturing device, comprising means of working a surface outside an effective area of a lens so as to permit visual discrimination from a surface inside said effective area.

37. (withdrawn) A lens manufacturing device, comprising means of simultaneously forming a lens and a predetermined pattern by using a mold, which is capable of forming said predetermined pattern on a surface outside an effective area of said lens so as to permit visual discrimination from a surface inside the effective area.

38. (withdrawn) An optical device, comprising a lens as set forth in claim 23.

39. (withdrawn) An optical pickup device, comprising a lens as set forth in claim 23.

40. (withdrawn) An optical communication device, comprising a lens as set forth in claim 23.
41. (withdrawn) An optical sensor device, comprising a lens as set forth in claim 23.
42. (withdrawn) A laser beam printer device, comprising a lens as set forth in claim 23.
43. (new) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein the marking comprises a light-absorbing material.
44. (new) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein the marking comprises a light-scattering material.
45. (new) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein the marking comprises a rough surface.
46. (new) The optical lens as set forth in claim 1, wherein the optical lens is 2 millimeters or smaller.